



## **Community Appearance Commission**

### **Minutes December 2, 2009**

The regular meeting of the Salisbury Community Appearance Commission was called to order Wednesday, December 2, 2009, at 4 p.m. by Barbara Perry, Chair, at her home at 131 W. Bank St. Salisbury, North Carolina. The following members were present and absent:

Present: Suzanne Casey, Greta Connor, Diane Gibbs, Barbara Lawther, Sue McHugh, Sean Meyers, Barbara Perry, Bill Safrit and Tom Wolpert

Absent: Connie Baker and Sara Robinson

Staff: Chris Branham, Diana Moghrabi and Lynn Raker

The minutes of the November 4, 2009, meeting were approved as submitted.

Chris Branham, Code Services Manager, followed up on matters the CAC has discussed. He will make a full presentation on Green Hills at the January meeting. He received a list of new homes to check on. The nuisance abatement SNAG report was distributed electronically.

- The cars on Council Street that Tom Wolpert has asked about have been reduced in number. The cars remaining all start.
- Four homes on 11<sup>th</sup> Street belonging to Mr. King were discussed. Two are presently vacant. Mr. King may be in favor of demolishing two and fixing the other two.
- The house at 501 N. Long Street is in the minimum housing process. Chris is waiting the 30-day response period.
- Sean Meyers spoke to Chris about his concerns on North Main Street. Vacant structures once secured are no longer boarded up. Chris also has had reports from Pat Sylvester regarding this area.
- There will be a controlled burn by the Fire Department at 528 N. Caldwell.
- Barbara Perry inquired about outdoor storage in the DMX and pointed out an ongoing problem—some relating to George Bender's (now deceased) former pool business. The property belongs to Davis Cook. David Phillips will be contacted regarding the zoning requirements.
- Greta Connor said there is a trailer on Horah St. that needs moved.
- Chris is addressing the City Code and the Land Development Ordinance to provide consistency and teeth to parking oversized vehicles, parking in front yards and parking on public streets. Charlotte is now ticketing nuisance vehicles. Chris will bring this item to City Council.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

- The CAC Goals were reviewed and are tentatively set for a City Council presentation January 19, 2010. This is in preparation for the February 11 & 12 Council Retreat. Bill Safrin made a MOTION to accept the Salisbury CAC Goals for 2010-11 as presented. Tom Wolpert seconded the motion with all members voting AYE. (9-0) This will be attached to the minutes.
- The Awards Jury will take a van tour Friday, December 4.
- The NLA Housing Subcommittee will meet December 15 at noon in the first floor conference room at City Hall. A second meeting is scheduled January 8, at noon.
- Maggie Blackwell will now champion for the CAC to the City Council. Maggie was voted to the City Council in November.

The meeting was adjourned for fellowship and refreshment.

The next regular CAC meeting will be January 6, 2010.

## Community Appearance Commission Goals for 2010-11

### Level I Goals

- Continue efforts to promote better housing conditions, working with new Code Services Division to advise on the development of policy and standards, including but not limited to stricter codes, inspections between rentals, rental certificates of occupancy, and a Council-appointed Housing Commission.
- Partner with DSI to initiate planning and funding for major downtown streetscape improvements that would include but not be limited to sidewalks, pedestrian lighting and furniture, street trees, and improvements at the Square.
- Partner with DSI to develop a master plan for downtown holiday decorations.

Level I Goals Requiring Funding	2010-11 Request	2009-10 Received
Continue the Municipal Service District Incentive Grant program.	\$ 35,000	\$ 22,000
Continue the Innes Street Incentive Grant program.	\$ 35,000	\$ 25,000
Host <i>biennial</i> CAC/ Tree Board Awards program	n/a	5,000
Continue the promotion of the spring and fall "Spruce-up Days," "Landscape of the Month," "Adopt-a-Salisbury Street," and other programs.	\$ 2,250	\$ 2,250
Improve appearance, comfort and maintenance of downtown streetscape with 3-year phased purchase and installation of additional trash receptacles and benches (year 3 of 3 year request).	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
Continue to expand Salisbury History and Art Trail marker program & 2 <sup>nd</sup> annual sculpture show. (Edward Norvell pledge: \$10,000 match w/ City allocation)	\$ 20,000	\$9,250
Add receptacles to medians on both sides of the new East Innes Street Railroad Bridge.	\$ 3,500	0

### Level I Internal Goals by Committee

#### ***Education:***

Promote public awareness and participation in CAC goals and projects:

- Place timely notification of monthly meeting in newspaper.
- Support DSI's efforts to develop maintenance ordinance for downtown commercial buildings.
- Enhance cleanliness of city-wide streets and ROWs through promotion of neighborhood stewardship, public education and incentives for recycling.

- Continue development and update of CAC home page accessible through the City's web page.
- Invite new civic and business leaders to attend a CAC meeting.

***Neighborhood:***

- Support efforts of Code Services staff, development of Housing Commission, or other City efforts to address deteriorated housing.
- Hold Neighborhood Leaders Alliance meetings. Look for opportunities to meet more often than twice/year.
- Demonstrate policies of *Salisbury Vision 2020* with CAC through initiatives and activities.
- Support citywide clean-up efforts such as spring and fall spruce-up weeks.
- Continue promotion and development of "pocket parks" in neighborhoods.
- Provide plantings for Arlington St. median w/ E. Innes St. gateway grant funding.
- Participate in Long St - Park Avenue, Jersey City, North Main Street and other neighborhood redevelopment efforts.
- Continue to identify neighborhoods that need leadership assistance.
- Continue to invite neighborhood leaders to attend CAC meetings.
  - Provide CAC news and updates through email distribution list or letter; invite leaders to submit neighborhood goals.
- Partner with Tree Board and Landscape Division to plant neighborhood trees.

***Art in Public Places:***

- Continue planning for downtown History and Art Trail & Sculpture Show, partnering with DSI and other organizations.
- Raise public awareness of existing public art and new public art opportunities.

***Landscape:***

- Continue to promote storefront Christmas decorations award for downtown businesses.
- Continue to select properties for Landscape of the Month awards.

**Level II Internal Goals**

- Seek federal, state, and other available funding for projects related to community appearance and neighborhood improvement.
- Continue nominating procedure for CAC that encourages broad geographical and cultural representation.
- Provide orientation for all new CAC members.